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RURAL DISTRICT OF BATTLE



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1960

M. I. SILVERTON,

O.B.E., T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

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THE RURAL DISTRICT OF BATTLE

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(constitution at 31st December, 1960)

Chairman:

MR. Q. LLOYD

Vice-Chairman:

MR. E. WOOLLARD

MR. P. G. ARMITAGE, J.P. (Chairman of the Council)

COMMANDER H. G. BOWERMAN, D.S.C., R.N. (Retired)

BRIGADIER W. H. BLOOD, M.V.O.

MRS. M. MERRICKS

MR. J. W. CASE

MR. C. RACKETT

THE HON. E. DAPHNE COURTHOPE

MR. E. S. WALSH

MR. H. M. HORSLEY

MRS. A. G. K. WILSON

DR. J. R. WRIGHT, T.D., J.P.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

M. I. SILVERTON, O.B.E., T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., F.R.S.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

W. T. DUNFORD, Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Foods Cert.

Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector:

R. E. BRIGGS, D.P.A., Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Foods Cert.

Public Health Inspectors:

F. B. Elliott, Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Foods Cert.

R. D. Brown, Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Foods Cert.

Chief Clerk:

Miss M. E. Portnell

Shorthand-Typists and General Clerks:

Mrs. W. R. Edwards

C. W. Field

Rat Catcher:

R. Elliott

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND COUNCILLORS OF BATTLE RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL

I have the honour to present the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1960.

The statistics reveal that the health of the District compares favourably with the rest of England and Wales.

It is a moment of great satisfaction and self congratulation for the Council when one considers that all main water schemes are now complete and that extensions are being provided wherever economically possible. The advent of main water to hitherto deprived Parishes has emphasised the necessity and urgency for concomitant sewerage schemes.

There is no doubt that much has been accomplished in a relatively short time and it is hoped that the present tempo can be maintained.

Mr. Dunford (Chief Public Health Inspector) and the Public Health Inspectors have given me their loyal support and I would like to express my thanks to them and the Clerical Staff under the able direction of Miss Portnell (Chief Clerk) for their assistance during the past year.

I am obliged to the Clerk of the Council and other Chief Officers for their courtesy and co-operation.

I am grateful to the Councillors, and in particular the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, for their stimulating interest and support.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M. I. SILVERTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

The Watch Oak,
Battle, Sussex.

Telephone: Battle 214/7.

STATISTICS RELATING TO BATTLE RURAL DISTRICT

	1958	1959	1960
Area of district in acres (estimated)	117,147	117,147	117,147
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-year)	29,630	29,640	29,970
Rateable value	£340,413 (31.12.58)	£365,479 (31.12.59)	£377,717 (31.12.60)
Sum represented by a penny rate (estimated)	£1,325	£1,475	£1,498
Number of rateable pre- mises as at 1st April ..	12,187	12,300	12,442

BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES

<i>Live Births:</i>	Male	Female	Total	<i>Still Births:</i>	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	217	177	394	Legitimate	1	2	3
Illegitimate	14	13	27	Illegitimate	0	0	0
	231	190	421		1	2	3

	Battle R.D.	England and Wales
Live birth rate per 1,000 home population (crude)	14.04	17.1
*Corrected birth rate	16.56	
Still birth rate per 1,000 births (live and still)	7.07	19.7
Still birth rate per 1,000 home population	0.1	0.34
Illegitimate birth rate per 1,000 live births	63.18	54.0
Illegitimate birth rate per cent of total live births	6.41%	5.4%

DEATHS AND DEATH RATES

	<i>Battle R.D.</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>
Deaths of infants under 1 week	5	10,474
Death rate of infants under 1 week per 1,000 live and still births	11.79	13.1
Deaths of infants under 4 weeks	7	12,129
Death rate of infants under 4 weeks of age per 1,000 births.. .. .	16.61	15.6
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	8	17,118
Death rate of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births	19.0	21.9
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	20.3	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil	0.38

Deaths

<i>Battle R.D.</i>			<i>England and Wales</i>		
Male	201	} 44 ¹	Male	269,175	} 526,275
Female	240		Female	257,100	
Death rate per 1,000 population	14.71		11.5		
*Corrected death rate	10.44				

*The birth and death rates are "Corrected" in order to be comparable with those for England and Wales.

DEATHS FROM SPECIFIC CAUSES AND RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION

	<i>Battle R.D.</i>		<i>England and Wales</i>	
	No. of Deaths	Per 1,000 pop.	No. of Deaths	Per 1,000 pop.
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	3	} 0.1	3,094	} 0.08
Tuberculosis (other)	Nil		332	
Influenza	Nil	Nil	1,098	0.02
Bronchitis	15	0.5	26,479	0.57
Pneumonia	31	1.03	24,357	0.53
Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil	22	0.00
Coronary and arteriosclerotic heart disease	60	2.0	91,970	2.01
Cancer of the lung, trachea and bronchus	15	0.5	21,992	0.48
Motor vehicle accidents	5	0.16	6,641	0.14
All other accidents	7	0.23	11,083	0.24

Accidents in the Home (England and Wales)

Main causes:

				<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
Coal gas poisoning	..	..		391	526
Other poisoning	..	..		160	212
Falls	..	..	..	1,199	3,027
Burns and scalds	..	..		221	432
Choking and suffocation			..	285	226
Other accidents	..	..		220	129
All accidents	..	..		2,476	4,552

A recent added cause of fatal asphyxia in young children is the practice of allowing them to play with discarded polythene bags used as wrappers. The Packaging Films Manufacturers' Association have advised distributors that a warning should appear on mattress and pillow covers, etc.

All accidents are preventable with a little extra care and forethought.

MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH

	1957	1958	1959	1960
(i) Diseases of the heart and circulatory system ..	194 (39.5%)	184 (42.7%)	149 (34.0%)	144 (32.6%)
(Coronary disease) ..	62 (12.6%)	65 (15.0%)	57 (13.0%)	60 (13.6%)
(ii) Malignant neoplasms (cancer)	88 (17.9%)	72 (16.6%)	71 (16.2%)	79 (17.9%)
(Cancer of lung and bronchus)	11 (2.2%)	12 (2.7%)	12 (2.7%)	15 (3.4%)
(iii) Vascular lesions of the nervous system ..	77 (15.7%)	66 (15.2%)	77 (17.5%)	77 (17.4%)
(iv) Respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis) ..	26 (5.3%)	41 (9.4%)	48 (10.9%)	46 (10.4%)

SUMMARY OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES, 1949-1960

Year	Esti- mated popula- tion	Total live births			Corr- ected Birth rate	Birth rate Eng. & W.	Total deaths			Corr- ected death rate	Death rate Eng. & W.	Natu- ral de- crease
		M	F	Total			M	F	Total			
1949	30,130	226	206	432	14.3	16.7	220	214	434	10.5	11.7	- 2
1950	29,910	208	203	411	15.8	15.8	213	215	428	10.2	11.6	- 17
1951	29,960	215	176	391	15.0	15.5	220	215	435	10.4	12.5	- 44
1952	29,770	186	184	370	14.2	15.3	184	210	394	9.5	11.3	- 24
1953	29,700	189	190	379	14.6	15.5	203	225	428	10.3	11.4	- 49
1954	29,780	202	177	379	15.0	15.2	221	223	444	10.4	11.3	- 65
1955	29,850	204	159	363	14.3	15.0	221	210	431	9.8	11.7	- 68
1956	29,810	180	193	373	14.7	15.6	214	225	439	10.3	11.7	- 66
1957	29,680	188	167	355	14.1	16.1	258	232	490	11.7	11.5	-135
1958	29,630	164	178	342	13.6	16.4	209	225	434	9.9	11.7	- 92
1959	29,640	196	165	361	14.3	16.5	199	239	438	10.3	11.6	- 77
1960	29,970	231	190	421	16.5	17.1	201	240	441	10.4	11.5	- 20

The Corrected Birth and Death Rates pay due regard to the increased proportion of aged retired persons within the Rural District as compared with England and Wales.

The birth rate is the highest recorded since 1949, indicating a younger content in the population generally. This is reflected again in the natural decrease, which is the difference between births and deaths but having no regard to the influx of new residents.

DETAILED CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	3	2	5
Infective and parasitic diseases other than Syphilitic (Hospital cases)	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasms	40	42	82
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	4	5
Diabetes	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of the nervous system	28	49	77
Coronary disease, angina	35	25	60
Hypertension with heart disease	4	2	6
Other heart disease	22	32	54
Other circulatory disease	10	14	24
Pneumonia	11	20	31
Bronchitis	12	3	15
Other diseases of the respiratory system	3	2	5
Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	2	0	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	3	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	5	0	5
Congenital malformation	1	0	1
Other defined or ill-defined diseases	18	28	46
Motor vehicle accidents	3	2	5
All other accidents	1	6	7
Suicide	0	1	1
	201	240	441

DEATHS—65 YEARS OF AGE AND OVER

	Battle R.D.			London *		
	1958	1959	1960	1958	1959	1960
Total deaths ..	434	438	441	38,026	38,227	36,521
Number of deaths 65 years and over ..	336	331	384	25,870	25,858	24,582
Percentage of total deaths	77.4	75.5	81.3	68.0	67.6	67.3

* England and Wales not available

LUNG CANCER AND SMOKING

Lung Cancer Deaths in England and Wales

1930	1,489
1957	19,127
1958	19,809
1959	21,063
1960	21,992

Lung Cancer, Rates per million living, England and Wales

1908	10
1938	113
1948	238
1958	439
1959	464

Cigarette smoking is still considered to be a potent factor in the mounting incidence of lung cancer.

TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary Cases			Non-Pulmonary Cases			Total Cases (all forms)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1. No. on Register at 1st January, 1960 ..	68	61	129	8	11	19	76	72	148
2. Cases previously removed and re-notified in 1960 ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
3. Primary notifications received in 1960 ..	7	4	11	1	—	1	8	4	12
4. Cases moved into area as transfers in 1960	4	4	8	—	1	1	4	5	9
Totals	80	69	149	9	12	21	89	81	170
5. Cases removed from Register in 1960 ..	5	5	10	1	—	1	6	5	11
6. Number on Register at 31st December, 1960	75	64	139	8	12	20	83	76	159

TUBERCULOSIS

	1959 Total Cases (all forms)			1960 Total Cases (all forms)		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
1. Number on Register at 1st Jan.	78	79	157	76	72	148
2. Cases previously removed and re-notified during year ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
3. Primary notifications received during year	3	1	4	8	4	12
4. Cases moved into area as transfers during year ..	6	6	12	4	5	9
Totals	87	86	173	89	81	170
5. Cases removed from Register during year	11	14	25	6	5	11
6. Number on Register at 31st Dec.	76	72	148	83	76	159

ANALYSIS OF REMOVALS IN 1960

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total Cases (all forms)		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	Total
Left District	2	5	1	—	3	5	8
Cured	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Died*	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
Proved not tuberculosis ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals	5	5	1	—	6	5	11

*Three additional death certificates recorded pulmonary tuberculosis as a cause of death in 1 male and 2 females. These do not appear in the above table. 1 male death and 1 female death had not been previously notified and 1 female death was a resident in Darvell Hall Chest Hospital, being domiciled outside the District before admission.

NEW CASES NOTIFIED GIVING AGE GROUPS, OCCUPATIONS AND HOUSING STATES

Age		NEW CASES (Primary Notifications)				Occupations	Housing
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary			
		M	F	M	F		
0- 2	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
3- 5	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
6-10	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-15	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-25	..	2	—	—	—	Farmer (Smallholding) Printer's Assistant	Tenant —
26-35	..	—	1	—	—	Housewife	Council House Tenant
36-45	..	1	—	—	—	Plumber	— Owner/occupier
46-60	..	—	1	—	—	School Meals Service	Lodger
		1	—	—	—	Forestry Worker	Council House
		—	1	—	—	Housewife	Council House
		—	—	1	—	First Aid Officer	Owner/occupier
Over 60	..	3	—	—	—	Retired	Tenant
		—	—	—	—	Retired	Council House
		—	1	—	—	Retired	Tenant
		—	—	—	—	Cook	Employee

MASS MINIATURE RADIOGRAPHY

The result of the survey carried out in Battle Town in 1960 is shown below:

					<i>Number of Persons X-rayed</i>	<i>Approximate Population</i>	<i>Percentage of Population x-rayed</i>	
Male	..	..	..	314	} 673	4,284	15.7	
Female	..	..	..	359				
						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis requiring occasional super-vision	5	0	5
Malignant disease	1	0	1
Sarcoidosis	1	1	2
Cardio-vascular lesions	3	3	6
Pneumoconiosis	1	0	1

*Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis
(England and Wales)*

1949	..	..	..	..	17,559
1958	..	..	..	..	3,999
1959	..	..	..	..	3,475
1960	..	..	..	..	3,094

Deaths from respiratory tuberculosis show a reduction of over 80% since 1949.

It is interesting to note the impact of preventive measures in this country as compared with others.

*Tuberculosis Death Rates per 100,000 population
(Demographic Year Book, United Nations)*

England and Wales	.	..	..	8.9
United States of America		..	..	7.3
Canada	..	..	..	5.2
Australia	..	..	..	5.1
Ireland	..	..	..	17.6
France	..	..	..	21.7
Denmark	..	..	..	3.8
Sweden	..	..	..	7.8
Netherlands	..	..	..	3.4
Japan	..	..	..	35.3

There is no doubt that this dramatic trend could be accelerated if the older age groups would avail themselves of Mass Miniature Radiography.

As in all health investigations, it is vitally important to treat any deviations from health as soon as possible; early discovery makes successful treatment more likely.

Mass Miniature Radiography not only discloses early tubercular lesions, but other abnormal conditions of the heart and lungs which are now amenable to treatment.

Mass Miniature Radiography in Industry

A completely mobile, self-contained Mass X-ray Unit is available to visit any premises employing 100 persons or more in the East Sussex area. The only facility required is a parking site for two vehicles.

Over 100 people can be given free chest X-ray examinations in a period of one hour, and as there is no undressing, both men and women can be X-rayed at the same session. Arrangements can be made either by telephone to Brighton 66017 or by letter to the Director, East Sussex Mass Radiography Unit, 26 Ditchling Road, Brighton, 7.

It is emphasised that the Mass X-ray service is free and that no information is disclosed without the patient's consent.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN AGE GROUPS

	Under 1 year	1-2 years	3-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-44 years	45-64 years	65 and over	Totals
Scarlet fever ..	—	—	3	4	4	—	—	—	—	11
Whooping cough ..	1	4	6	9	5	1	—	—	—	26
Measles ..	2	20	29	134	16	1	2	2	—	206
Acute pneumonia ..	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	2	8	16
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	5
Puerperal pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Dysentery ..	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Ophthalmia neonatorum	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Totals ..	8	26	40	148	25	2	3	5	12	269

SEASONAL INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals
Scarlet fever ..	1	1	—	3	—	—	1	—	1	3	—	1	11
Whooping cough	—	2	1	—	2	3	4	4	5	2	—	3	26
Measles ..	—	3	15	40	38	17	2	—	1	1	6	83	206
Acute pneumonia	5	1	1	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	3	—	16
Erysipelas ..	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	5
Puerperal pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Dysentery ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Ophthalmia neonatorum ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Totals ..	9	7	18	46	43	21	7	7	7	7	9	88	269

DISTRIBUTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE PARISHES

		Measles	Whooping cough	Scarlet fever	Acute pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal pyrexia	Dysentery	Ophthalmia neonatorum
Ashburnham .. ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Battle .. ..	..	62	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Beckley .. ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Bodiam .. ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Brede .. ..	..	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Brightling .. ..	..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Burwash .. ..	..	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Camber .. ..	..	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Catsfield .. ..	..	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Crowhurst .. ..	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dallington .. ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Guldeford ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Etchingham .. ..	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ewhurst .. ..	..	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fairlight .. ..	..	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Guestling .. ..	..	23	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Hurst Green .. ..	..	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Icklesham .. ..	..	3	—	—	3	1	—	—	—
Iden .. ..	..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mountfield .. ..	..	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northiam .. ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Peasmarsh .. ..	..	1	11	—	1	—	—	—	—
Penhurst .. ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pett .. ..	..	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Playden .. ..	..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rye Foreign .. ..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Salehurst .. ..	..	12	4	2	—	—	—	—	—
Sedlescombe .. ..	..	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Ticehurst .. ..	..	1	—	—	7	1	—	—	2
Udimore .. ..	..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Westfield .. ..	..	7	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
Whatlington .. ..	..	12	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Totals .. ..	..	206	26	11	16	5	1	2	2

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Poliomyelitis

Fortunately no cases were recorded in this district. The much decreased incidence in England and Wales generally must be accepted as a tribute to the preventive action of polio vaccination.

Poliomyelitis is no longer a disease specifically affecting the very young and therefore the availability of vaccination for older groups is excellent value. One can only deplore the apathy of parents who do not take advantage of this scheme to protect themselves and their children. A crippled parent is a liability to the family unit which can and should be avoided.

Diphtheria

There have been isolated pockets of infection in other areas, but fortunately we have continued to be free for the past 15 years.

These outbreaks have occurred, in the main, in the unimmunised and where percentages of protected children are low. This is a warning that this killing and disabling disease can only be kept at bay by pursuing our immunisation campaign and aiming at 100% protection. We cannot afford to be complacent. Parents are duty bound to facilitate protection for their children.

Measles

The incidence of measles was considerably reduced during the year, but the large number of notifications in December, 1960, was a foretaste of the increased number of cases to be expected in 1961.

Over 90% of the population are affected sometime in their lives. The reduced number in one year is usually followed by a marked increase in the next year. A protective vaccine is in process of being perfected with field trials in 1961.

Whooping Cough

The decreased number of notifications in 1960 is a continuation of the favourable trend which must be attributed to immunisation against this infection.

INCIDENCE OF WHOOPING COUGH IN CHILDREN WHO HAVE BEEN IMMUNISED

	1956			1957			1958			1959			1960		
	Cases	Notified cases immunised	Immunisations performed	Cases	Notified cases immunised	Immunisations performed	Cases	Notified cases immunised	Immunisations performed	Cases	Notified cases immunised	Immunisations performed	Cases	Notified cases immunised	Immunisations performed
Under 1 year	5	2	210	3	—	225	4	—	236	1	—		1	—	
1- 2 ..	14	8	81	8	4	63	9	6	53	2	1	294	4	4	335
3- 4 ..	15	2		14	10		20	14		2	—		6	5	
5- 9 ..	48	3	5	47	5	6	66	7	9	22	2	5	9	4	24
10-14 ..	3	—	—	5	1	2	8	1	3	2	—		5	1	
Totals ..	85	15	296	77	20	296	107	28	300	29	3	299	25	14	359

Incidence of Infectious Diseases (*Continued*)

Scarlet Fever

Mild in character and of no special significance, no cases were admitted to hospital. The usual investigations were made in each case regarding the possibility of food handlers being involved and where indicated alternative work was advised and accepted.

Food Poisoning

There were no notifications relating to food poisoning, during the current year.

Influenza

Prevalent in the Midland and North-West Regions where A2 strains were isolated, but fortunately this area was hardly affected.

No deaths were recorded in Battle Rural District and this is reflected, in some measure, in the diminished number of pneumonia notifications.

Deaths in England and Wales were 1,098, the lowest number this century.

Conjunctivitis

Conjunctivitis in schools exemplifies a difficulty encountered with a condition which is normally rapidly amenable to correct treatment. A small residue of apathetic parents with poor standards do not seek medical advice, others use home remedies, thus perpetuating and spreading the infection.

One of the deterrents militating against their seeking treatment from their own doctors is possibly the prescription charge.

COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR THE YEARS 1955-1960 1st JANUARY-31st DECEMBER

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis	2	1	6	—	2	—
Measles	243	105	184	397	406	206
Scarlet fever	8	7	10	20	14	11
Meningococcal infection	—	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping cough	106	89	80	113	32	26
Acute pneumonia	32	20	27	15	31	16
Erysipelas	5	7	4	4	3	5
Puerperal pyrexia	4	2	4	1	5	1
Dysentery	—	14	1	—	—	2
Food poisoning	3	3	2	2	—	—
Acute encephalitis	—	—	—	3	—	—
Typhoid	2	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	1	—	—	2

PERIOD OF EXCLUSION IN CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS

	Usual Incubation period (days)	Interval between onset and appearance of rash (days)	Period of exclusion	
			<i>Patients</i>	<i>Contacts</i> , i.e. the other members of the family or household living together as a family, that is, in one tenement.
SCARLET FEVER AND STREPTOCOCCAL SORE THROAT	1-7	1-2	Exclude from school for 7 days after discharge from hospital or home isolation. Not allowed back if discharge from the nose or ear, sore throat or septic spots be present.	Adult contacts engaged in school meals service excluded until Medical Officer of Health allows return to work. Other contacts, if healthy, need not be excluded.
DIPHTHERIA	2-7	—	Until pronounced by a medical practitioner to be free from infection.	At least 7 days. Return to school should not be permitted until bacteriological examination has proved negative.
MEASLES	7-14	3-4	10 days after the appearance of the rash if the child appears well.	Children under 5 years of age who have not had the disease should be excluded for 14 days from the date of the appearance of the rash in the last case in the house. Other contacts can attend school. Any contact suffering from a cough, cold, chill or red eyes should be immediately excluded.
GERMAN MEASLES	5-21	0-2	7 days from the appearance of the rash.	None.
WHOOPING COUGH	6-18	—	28 days from the beginning of the characteristic cough.	Children under 7 years who have not had the disease should be excluded for 21 days from the date of onset of the disease in the last case in the house.
MUMPS	12-28	—	7 days from the subsidence of the swelling.	None.
CHICKEN POX	11-21	0-2	14 days from the date of appearance of the rash.	None.

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION RECOMMENDATIONS—*continued*

	Usual Incubation period (days)	Interval between onset and appearance of rash (days)	Period of exclusion	
			<i>Patients</i>	<i>Contacts</i> , i.e. the other members of the family or household living together as a family, that is, in one tenement.
INFLUENZA AND THE COMMON COLD	1-2	—	Exclude immediately for 7 days or until recovery is complete.	None.

RINGWORM OF THE BODY (including ATHLETE'S FOOT) If the infected area can be kept covered the patient need not be excluded. He should not, however, take part in swimming—nor in the case of ringworm of the feet—in gymnastic classes or barefoot dancing.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The annual figures for 1960 are made available by the Local Health Authority and this is the first full working year since delegation to your Medical Officer of Health ceased.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The results of this life-saving measure in England and Wales can be seen at a glance in the table below.

<i>Year</i>				<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Corrected Notifications</i>
1941	..	..	..	2,641	50,797
1959	..	..	..	Nil	123
1960	..	..	..	5	53

The occurrence of 5 deaths is a serious warning that this disease is still a killer and only held at bay by protective immunisation.

Neglect and apathy can still exact their toll.

	Age at date of Final Injection (as regards (a)) or Reinforcing Injection (b)			
	Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	Total
(a) Number of children who completed a full course of PRIMARY IMMUNISATION in Battle Rural District during 1960 ..	268	69	32	369
(b) Number of children who received a SECONDARY (reinforcing injection during 1960	—	7	786	793

Number of children in Battle Rural District on 31st December, 1960, who have completed a course of diphtheria immunisation at any time between 1st January, 1946, and 31st December, 1960.

Age on 31.12.1960 (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 1960	1-4 1956-59	5-9 1951-55	10-14 1946-50	Under 15 Total
(a) Number of children whose last course (Primary or booster) was completed in the period 1956-60	128	1,180	1,696	1,822	4,826
(b) Number of children whose last course (Primary or booster) was completed in the period 1955 or earlier	—	—	309	544	853

Whooping Cough

	0-4 years	5-14 years	Total
Primary course (normally three injections) singly or in combination ..	335	24	359

The majority of these injections were given in combination with diphtheria antigen.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

The following persons were vaccinated against smallpox in 1960:

	<i>Under 1 year</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2-4</i>	<i>5-14</i>	<i>15 or over</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary vaccination	241	15	11	10	15	292
Re-vaccination ..	1	—	6	37	184	228

Travel abroad accounted for 20 primary vaccinations and 215 re-vaccinations.

The speed of air travel makes the likelihood of the introduction of smallpox an ever-present possibility. Parents are exhorted to agree to vaccination during the early months of their children's lives in order that they may achieve full protection as early as possible with the minimum of inconvenience.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES IN BATTLE RURAL DISTRICT

<i>Name and address of Centre</i>	<i>Sessions</i>
BATTLE: Langton House	Fourth Tuesday in month. (<i>Weighing sessions only</i>)
BECKLEY: Village Hall	First Tuesday in month. (<i>Weighing sessions only</i>)
BREDE and UDIMORE: Women's Institute Hall, Brede	Second Wednesday in month.
BURWASH: "Dawes", High Street	Fourth Thursday in month.
ETCHINGHAM: Village Hall	First Thursday in month. (<i>Weighing sessions only</i>)
FLIMWELL: Village Hall	Fourth Tuesday in month. (<i>Weighing sessions only</i>)
GUESTLING and DISTRICT: Village Hall, Icklesham	Second Friday in month.
HURST GREEN: Village Hall	Third Tuesday in month.
NETHERFIELD: Scout Hut, Darvell Down	First Tuesday in month. (<i>Weighing sessions only</i>)
NORTHIAM: Women's Institute Hall	Third Tuesday in month.
PEASMARSH, IDEN and DISTRICT: Memorial Hall, Peasmarsh	First Friday in month.
ROBERTSBRIDGE: The Institute, Station Road	First and Third Tuesdays in month.
SEDLESCOMBE: Village Hall	First Thursday in month. (<i>Weighing sessions only</i>)
TICEHURST: Institute Hall	First Wednesday in month.
WESTFIELD: Church Hall	Third Tuesday in month.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

(a) PROVIDED BY THE EAST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL UNDER THE
AEGIS OF THE COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(i) *Ambulance Service*

		1958		1959		1960	
	Cases	Mileage		Cases	Mileage	Cases	Mileage
Illness ..	854	} 25,459		662	} 21,051	673	} 21,480
Accidents ..	177			218		292	

(ii) *Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Children under School Age*

(iii) *Contraceptive Advice*

Subject to the limitation that advice is only given where pregnancy or childbirth is liable to be injurious to the health of the mother, arrangements are made for contraceptive advice to be given to married women at a clinic arranged by Hastings Corporation.

(iv) *District Nurses (Midwives) and Health Visitors*

(v) *Home Help Service*

It is likely that 10—20% of the aged are living alone, having no immediate relatives and very few friends.

The Home Help Service is a boon to these elderly folk giving them contact with the outer world and enabling them to remain in their own homes. Unfortunately, there do not appear to be sufficient helpers for all deserving cases, particularly in a rural area of this type.

There is no doubt that an efficient Home Help Service would avoid and delay institutionalism.

(vi) *Hospital Car Service*

The Hospital Car Service in this county is provided by the joint organisation of the British Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Brigade. The Area Transport Office for this district is at 8 Endwell Road, Bexhill-on-Sea (Telephone Bexhill 152).

(vii) *Infant Welfare Centres*

See list of Centres on page 20.

(viii) *Immunisation and Vaccination Service*

Please refer to pages 18 and 19.

(ix) *Poliomyelitis Vaccination Service*

Regular clinics attended by your Medical Officer of Health are held as follows:

The Working Men's Club and Institute,	First WEDNESDAY in each month, from 11.30 to 12 noon.
ROBERTSBRIDGE.	

The Youth Centre,	First WEDNESDAY in each month, from 2 to 2.30 p.m.
BATTLE.	

(x) *B.C.G. Vaccination of School Children from 13 years.*

(xi) *Mental Health Service*

(xii) *Registration of Nursing Homes*

There are three efficiently-conducted registered Nursing Homes in this District. (33 beds available).

(xiii) *School Dental Service*(xiv) *School Medical Service (*Routine medical examinations including the assessment of handicapped pupils)*

*Delegated duties to the District Medical Officer of Health, who also acts as School Medical Officer.

(b) HOSPITALS

The following are the main hospitals providing accommodation and treatment for residents in the Battle Rural District:

Darvell Hall Hospital, Robertsbridge.

Battle Hospital, Battle.

Memorial Hospital, Rye Foreign.

Isolation Hospital, Tunbridge Wells.

Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings (including V.D. Clinic).

Mount Pleasant Isolation Hospital, Hastings.

St. Helen's Hospital, Hastings.

Fernbank Maternity Nursing Home, Hastings.

Buchanan Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

Eversfield Chest Hospital, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

St. Mary's Hospital, Eastbourne.

Princess Alice Hospital, Eastbourne.

Gildredge Isolation Hospital, Eastbourne.

Bexhill Hospital, Bexhill-on-Sea.

Hellingly Hospital, Hellingly.

Pembury Hospital, Pembury.

Kent and Sussex Hospital, Tunbridge Wells.

Homoepathic Hospital, Tunbridge Wells.

Cottage Hospital, Hawkhurst.

Hill House, Rye Foreign.

Administered by the South-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board through their respective Hospital Management Committees.

(c) PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

The Public Health Laboratory Service is a free national laboratory service designed to assist all those concerned in the diagnosis, prevention and control of communicable diseases. The benefits are not limited by health authority, hospital region or other administrative boundary. These facilities are available to all doctors, both for the submission of specimens and for consultation.

Gamma globulin, prepared from pooled plasma from normal healthy adults by the Lister Institute for the Ministry of Health, is distributed to doctors in England and Wales through laboratories of

the Public Health Laboratory Service. Requests for supplies should be made to the Director of the nearest laboratory of the Service. So far as supplies allow, it is issued for the protection of susceptible contacts of measles, rubella and poliomyelitis as shown below:

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Available for</i>	<i>Usual Dosage Prevention</i>
Measles	(i) Control of hospital and institutional outbreaks.	3 years and over— 750 mg.
	(ii) Persons suffering from intercurrent illness or living in a poor environment for whom an attack of measles would be dangerous.	1-2 years—500 mg. Under 1 year— 250 mg.
Rubella	Women exposed to infection in the first four months of pregnancy	1,500 mg. divided into 2 doses (one in each buttock) (No need for refrigeration).

Protection is immediate providing no rash has appeared, and lasts 2-3 weeks, no side effects. Optimum prevention is up to first week after exposure.

Polio- myelitis	(i) Babies in a hospital or maternity home exposed to infection soon after birth.	Under 1 year—500 mg.
	(ii) Unprotected children in a hospital ward in which a case develops—especially children who have recently undergone tonsillectomy.	1-6 years—1.0 g. 7 years and over— 1.5 g.

In addition, a small stock of gamma globulin prepared from the blood of persons recently vaccinated against smallpox is held for the treatment of cases of generalised vaccinia, accidental vaccinal infections endangering the eye and, in special circumstances, for the protection of unvaccinated smallpox contacts.

The address of the nearest laboratory is The Public Health Laboratory, Royal Sussex County Hospital, Brighton (Telephone, Brighton 63506, Director—Doctor J. E. Jameson).

(d) NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

(i) Section 47: Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

An elderly couple, aet 78 and 81 years, were resistant to any form of external help, I was therefore forced, in their own interest, to apply this Section. They were subsequently removed to Part III accommodation.

A Court Order eventually confirmed the emergency procedure and they did settle in the course of time.

This is the first occasion on which I have been compelled to invoke the provisions of this Section. Action was only taken after every possible avenue had been explored to enable them to stay in their own home, but their completely antagonistic and anti-social attitude towards their neighbours and the Home Help Service left me no alternative.

(ii) *Section 50: Burial or Cremation of the Dead.*

No action was necessary under this Section during 1960.

(e) HOME PHYSIOTHERAPY SERVICE

This Service fulfils a worthwhile function by allowing needy patients to be treated in the comfort of their own homes, a great boon to the elderly and generally incapacitated.

The Physiotherapy Service relies for its continuance on the voluntary efforts of its Committees and the goodwill of the public in supplying the necessary monies. £1,250 per annum is the estimated cost of maintaining a qualified physiotherapist with a fully equipped van.

(f) NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN
Liaison has been maintained with mutual benefit.

(g) MEALS ON WHEELS

The first scheme in this district was initiated by a voluntary organisation on 4th October, 1960, in a comparatively sparsely populated country area.

They provided a " Hotlock " and other necessary equipment from their own funds. The Council welcomed this charitable effort and made a grant of sixpence per meal. They hoped that this would be the forerunner of similar schemes in other parishes which they would be happy to encourage.

The East Sussex County Council Welfare Services Department make a grant towards transport.

An extremely valuable service enabling the elderly to remain in their own homes, ensuring good nutrition with the added interest of regular visitors, thus making an important contribution to preserving their mental health and happiness.

This worthwhile voluntary effort is greatly appreciated by the recipients.

FOOD HYGIENE

The standards in this District are reasonably good, due to the efforts of the Public Health Inspectors in the field of health education and the co-operation of responsible members of the community.

Customers generally receive the standard of hygiene that they are willing to accept. If they are alert, public spirited and knowledgeable as to what constitutes good hygiene then they will cease to patronise those shops and catering establishments who do not conform.

There is no doubt that such an attitude of mind would soon achieve high standards and make food handlers conscious of their obligation to provide a clean, wholesome product.

What should one note ?

1. General tidiness and cleanliness.
2. Absence of flies.
3. Cleanliness of food handlers—clothes and person, including hands and nails.
4. The "no-touch" technique, minimal handling.
5. Cuts on hands should be covered with clean strapping.
6. No touching of face, nose and hair prior to handling food.
7. No smoking while serving.
8. Food on display should be protected from droplets of saliva when speaking, coughing or sneezing.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The number of food premises inspected during 1960 was 108. Informal notices were served in 10 cases and the necessary improvements were obtained in 5 cases by the end of the year. The Inspectors make full use of each inspection to explain and drive home the essentials of food hygiene to managers and staff, and explanatory leaflets are left where applicable.

There are 401 food premises in this Rural District, made up as follows:

Retail shops

Grocers or General Stores	..	..	..	..	..	122
Milkshops .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2
Bakers and Confectioners	5
Butchers	28
Greengrocers	5
Fishmongers	2
Sweets	18

<i>Bakeries</i>	2
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<i>Public Houses</i>	78
------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----

<i>Hotels, Guest Houses and Cafes</i>	76
---	----	----	----	----	----	----

<i>Canteens (Industrial, etc.)</i>	6
--	----	----	----	----	----	---

Schools

(a) Private	15
(b) East Sussex County Council	28
(c) E.S.C.C. Boarding	2

<i>Hospitals</i>	8
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<i>Nursing Homes</i>	3
------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	---

<i>Home for Aged</i>	1
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Registered Food Premises

PREMISES REGISTERED UNDER SECTION 16 OF THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Ice Cream

No. of premises on Register at end of 1959	..	..	..	141
No. of premises registered during 1960	..	..	..	8

Sausages

No. of premises on Register at end of 1959	..	..	..	12
No. of premises registered during 1960	..	..	..	1

Preserves (Jams, etc.)

No. of premises on Register at end of 1959	..	..	..	1
No. of premises registered during 1960	..	..	..	Nil

Ice Cream

Registered food premises retailing ice cream, mainly sell the wrapped product. None is manufactured within this District.

Sausage Makers

Sausage making is mainly confined to butchers' shops. One small, suitably equipped and well conducted factory makes continental type sausages which are sold outside the rural district.

Inspections of Registered Food Premises

There were 41 inspections of registered food premises during the year.

Disposal of Condemned Food

Condemned food is removed from the premises for disposal at the Council's refuse tips or rendered unsaleable by staining so that it may be salvaged for soap-making or other industrial processes. Food condemned in shops was mainly in tins and comprised fruit, meat and fish. Retailers have co-operated well in submitting doubtful foods for examination by the public health inspectors.

Certificates are issued in respect of all foods condemned and traders are thus enabled to claim refunds from wholesalers.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

Food Found to be Unfit for Human Consumption

During the year the undermentioned foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption:

Veal	..	..	75 lb.	Tinned milk	..	16 oz.
Pork	..	..	8 lb. 6 oz.	Tinned meat	..	47 lb. 19 oz.
Tinned fish	..	..	4 lb. 8 oz.	Tinned fruit	..	125 lb. 11 oz.
Miscellaneous 6 lbs. 12 oz.						

Meat Condemned at Slaughterhouses

			<i>Carcase Meat</i>	<i>Offal</i>
Beef	..	..	.. 11 lb.	122 lb.
Mutton and lamb	..	..	.. —	45 lb.
Pork	..	..	.. —	88 lb.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Beasts Exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and inspected . .	146	—	56	268	261	—
<i>All diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	12	—	—	7	30	—
% of number inspected affected with disease	8.21%	—	—	2.61%	11.1%	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	1	—
% of number inspected affected with T.B.	—	—	—	—	0.4%	—
<i>Cysticercosis:</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration . .	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

MILK PRODUCTION

Tuberculin Tested and non-designated farms in Battle Rural District:

	Tuberculin Tested Milk		Non-designated Milk	
	Farms	Percentage	Farms	Percentage
1956	239	67.51	115	32.49
1957	281	81.21	65	18.79
1958	309	91.42	29	8.58
1959	327	95.34	16	4.66
1960	319	97.25	9	2.75

It will be observed that the number of milk producing farms shows a reduction since last year.

I am reliably informed that this is due to smaller farms going out of milk production in favour of other more rewarding farming enterprises which do not necessitate the same labour force and obviate the daily drudgery of milking a small herd.

This trend has not reduced milk production, the tendency being to keep more cows with resultant overall economies.

The percentage of Tuberculin Tested milk produced has continued to increase, this is most satisfactory as it means that not only must the farmer have a Tuberculin Tested herd but dairy buildings, water supply and production methods must be of high standard.

Despite this high standard it must be realised that the cow is not a machine that can be kept sterile and that other organisms potentially dangerous to health can be excreted with the milk even though bovine tuberculosis may be absent, but even here reactors may, from time to time, be found in the best regulated herds and it could be some time before they were discovered.

The Brucella group of organisms is endemic in the cattle of this country, it is estimated that at least 15% of all herds are infected.

In raw milk drinkers this may give rise to fevers of long or short duration, with general ill-health, diagnosis is difficult and usually only confirmed when the condition is sufficiently serious to cause admission to hospital.

Pasteurised milk is therefore the only safe milk, the visible cream line may be reduced by one-seventh but this fraction is still present in the bulk of the milk and the nutritional properties have not been impaired in any way. If bacteria are present in a bottle of raw milk then the creamy top portion contains many times the number of bacteria found in the remaining portion of the milk.

SAMPLES OF MILK SUBMITTED FOR BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION FROM TUBERCULIN TESTED (T.T.) CATTLE:

Number of samples taken	..	..	..	..	..	35
Number negative for Tubercle Bacilli	..	..	..	..	..	35
Number positive for Brucella Mellitensis	..	..	..	..	..	20

DETAILS OF REGISTRATIONS AND LICENCES GRANTED DURING 1960:

(1) Registrations:

(a) Milk distributors	..	..	..	..	..	14
(b) Dairy premises (other than dairy farms)	..	..	..	..	..	2
(c) Shops selling milk	..	..	..	..	..	12

(2) Licences granted under:

(a) *The Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953:*

(i) Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	28
(ii) Supplementary	..	..	..	..	..	4

(b) *The Milk (Special Designations) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954:*

(i) Dealers	..	..	..	..	..	22
(ii) Supplementary	..	..	..	..	..	4

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

The issue of licences to producers of T.T. milk will continue to be the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, but the issue of dealers' licences for the sale of specially designated milk will be made the responsibility of the Food and Drugs Authority (East Sussex County Council).

These Regulations came into operation on 1st October, 1960, as regards producers' licences, and will operate from 1st January, 1961, as regards dealers' licences.

WATER SUPPLY

There are five Statutory Undertakings within the District :—

<i>Undertaking</i>	<i>Parishes</i>
Battle Rural District Council . .	Battle, part of Brightling, part of Crowhurst, Ewhurst, Mountfield, Iden, Playden, Rye Foreign and part of Peasmarsh, Sedlescombe and Whatlington.
Hastings Corporation	Parts of Westfield, Guestling, Pett and Fairlight; Icklesham including Winchelsea Town, Winchelsea Beach and Rye Harbour; Camber, Brede, Udimore and East Guldeford.
Eastbourne Waterworks Company	Burwash, Brightling, Dallington, Etchingham, Hurst Green, Salehurst, Bodiam and Ticehurst.
Mid-Kent Water Company	Northiam.
Bexhill Corporation	Ashburnham, Catsfield and part of Crowhurst.

Rye Borough Corporation supplies water to Rye Foreign, Iden and Playden by arrangement with the Statutory Undertakers.

Personnel of the Water Engineer's Department are blood-tested on appointment and reviewed when indicated in order to eliminate the possibility of a carrier state with consequent pollution of the water supply. This is arranged with the helpful co-operation of the Pathologist of the Royal East Sussex Hospital, Hastings.

Other Piped Supplies

TOOT ROCK, PETT LEVEL

This private water undertaking serves 54 houses in the Pett Level area.

The supply pipes are exposed, vulnerable to frost, and liable to ice-up, with consequent stoppage of the water supply.

The owner was advised regarding necessary precautions to avoid recurrence.

FAIRLIGHT COVE WATER COMPANY

I am happy to record that this private undertaking ceased to function on the completion of the laying of new mains by Hastings Corporation in July, 1960.

FIREHILLS ESTATE WATER COMPANY, FAIRLIGHT

Restricts its filtered and chlorinated water supply to its own estate comprising 103 houses.

The remedial measures designed to reduce the iron manganese and acid content of this water were satisfactorily concluded in March, 1960.

Further chemical sampling was satisfactory.

SAMPLING OF PUBLIC SUPPLIES

The following table summarises the results of sampling public supplies:

	Type	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
<i>(a) Samples taken by the Council:</i>				
Toot Rock, Pett Level	Bacteriological	6	1	7
	Chemical and Bacteriological	1	—	1
Firehills Estate, Fairlight ..	Bacteriological	6	1	7
	Chemical and Bacteriological	2	—	2
Fairlight Cove Estate, Fairlight	Bacteriological	2	—	2
Mid-Kent Water Company ..	Bacteriological	1	—	1
Eastbourne Waterworks Co. ..	Bacteriological	4	—	4
Hastings Corporation ..	Bacteriological	2	—	2
Battle Rural District Council:				
Battle Supply	Bacteriological	8	—	8
	Chemical and Bacteriological	3	—	3
Crowhurst Supply	Bacteriological	1	—	1
Peasmarsh Supply	Bacteriological	9	1	10
	Chemical and Bacteriological	3	—	3
Sedlescombe Supply	Bacteriological	11	3*	14
	Chemical and Bacteriological	3	—	3
<i>(b) Reports received from Statutory Undertakings:</i>				
Bexhill Corporation	Bacteriological	1	—	1
Eastbourne Waterworks Company	Bacteriological	4	—	4
	Chemical and Bacteriological	1	—	1
Hastings Corporation	Bacteriological	6	—	6

* includes 2 raw waters

New Schemes and Extensions

BATTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL UNDERTAKING

North Eastern Parishes Scheme

Completed in November, 1960, and the Peasmarsh water works became redundant.

Further extensions will be added from time to time to cater for new development.

Marley Lane, Battle (Extension)

26 houses were in process of being connected to main supply.

BEXHILL CORPORATION

Skinner's Lane, Catsfield

Bexhill Corporation extended their main from Ninfield to include 2 houses in Skinner's Lane, Catsfield.

HASTINGS CORPORATION

Cottage Lane, Westfield

An extension to serve 17 houses in Cottage Lane, Westfield was requisitioned on payment by the owners.

DISTRIBUTION OF PIPED WATER SUPPLIES—DOMESTIC PROPERTIES CONNECTED TO THE MAIN

Parish	1960		1959	1958	1957
	Population served estimated at 3 per house	Properties			
<i>Battle Rural District Council:</i>					
Battle	4,788	1,596	1,539	1,509	1,489
Beckley	504	168	—	—	—
Brightling	6	2	2	2	2
Catsfield	3	1	—	—	—
Crowhurst	594	198	194	193	188
Ewhurst	558	186	161	115	—
Iden	321	107	92	73	71
Mountfield	345	115	112	7	7
Northiam	75	25	—	—	—
Peasmarsh	414	138	85	83	81
Playden	270	90	89	84	83
Rye Foreign	153	51	37	37	28
Sedlescombe	717	239	202	162	—
Whatlington	264	88	78	37	23
<i>Hastings Corporation:</i>					
Brede*	861	287	277	236	238
Camber	696	232	228	219	203
East Guldeford	39	13	11	—	—
Guestling†	2,226	742	552	457	397
Icklesham‡	2,214	738	727	701	708
Udimore	189	63	60	45	—
Westfield	1,506	502	471	431	401
<i>Eastbourne Water Company:</i>					
Bodiam	390	130	130	129	128
Brightling	168	56	54	42	—
Burwash	1,848	616	607	595	592
Dallington	237	79	72	61	—
Etchingham	693	231	230	223	222
Hurst Green	804	268	266	263	260
Salehurst	1,677	559	552	547	545
Ticehurst	2,643	881	867	855	834
<i>Mid-Kent Water Company:</i>					
Northiam	1,500	500	463	457	461
<i>Bexhill Corporation:</i>					
Ashburnham	189	63	63	62	50
Catsfield	606	202	197	191	190
Crowhurst	18	6	6	6	6
Totals	27,516	9,172	8,414	7,822	7,207

*Including that part of Brede known as Broad Oak.

†Including the parishes of Pett, Fairlight and that part of Guestling known as Three Oaks.

‡Including Winchelsea Town, Winchelsea Beach and Rye Harbour.

WATER SAMPLES TAKEN FROM NEW AND SUSPECT SOURCES

PARISH	WELLS		SPRINGS	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Beckley	1	5	—	—
Bodiam	—	—	—	2
Brede	1	4	—	—
Brightling*	—	2	—	—
Burwash	—	1	2	1
Catsfield	—	1	—	—
Crowhurst	—	—	—	1
Dallington	—	1	—	—
Ewhurst	—	7	1	3
Fairlight	1	2	—	—
Icklesham	—	1	—	—
Mountfield	—	—	—	5
Northiam	—	1	1	—
Peasmarsh	—	1	—	—
Penhurst	—	1	—	—
Pett	—	—	1	—
Salehurst	—	1	2	—
Sedlescombe	—	1	—	—
Ticehurst	—	1	—	1
Westfield	—	—	—	1
Totals	3	30	7	14

*In addition, there were two unsatisfactory results from ponds in this parish.

RAINWATER TANKS

	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Ticehurst	1	1
Westfield	—	1

COUNCIL HOUSES NOT ON MAIN WATER

Estate	Type of supply	No. of dwellings	Action taken
BECKLEY:			
Burnt House Cotts.	Well	4	Connected 1.11.1960
Coombs Cottages ..	Well	12	Connected 1.12.1960
Turners Cottages ..	Delivered	8	Connected 1.11.1960
Yew Tree Cotts. ..	Well	4	Connected 1.7.1960
Chapel Cottages ..	Well	3	Connected 25.7.1960
DALLINGTON:			
South Lane ..	Well	2	" BOIL ALL WATER "
EWHRST:			
Scows Down ..	Delivered	2	Connected 12.2.1960
MOUNTFIELD:			
Brickyard Cotts. ..	Delivered	2	—
SEDLESCOMBE:			
Rose Cottages ..	Well	4	Awaiting reconstruction

SCHOOLS NOT ON MAIN WATER

<i>School</i>	<i>Type of Supply</i>
Beckley V. P.	Delivered
One Private School	Spring

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

BATTLE (SEWERING OF OUTLYING PARTS OF THE PARISH)

Further consideration was given to this comprehensive scheme and the Consulting Engineers were still in process of submitting proposals.

BREDE AND BROAD OAK

This scheme commenced on 17th October, 1960, and work proceeded satisfactorily during the remainder of the year.

BURWASH COMMON SCHEME

Acquisition of treatment works site and other lands was authorised.

CATSFIELD

Outline scheme approved.

CROWHURST

Slow progress.

FAIRLIGHT

Scheme for dealing with stormwater was submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in November, 1960.

GUESTLING, WATERMILL LANE

Scheme approved and tenders awaited.

SEDLESCOMBE

Tenders were received and submitted to the Minister for approval in November, 1960.

TICEHURST SEWAGE WORKS (REMEDIAL WORK)

Completed in July, 1960.

WESTFIELD, PARKWOOD ROAD, THE RIDGE

This scheme by private developers was completed in November, 1960.

WINCHELSEA BEACH

Progress slow.

CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

NUMBER OF LOADS REMOVED

	Private			Local Authority			Total		
	1958	1959	1960	1958	1959	1960	1958	1959	1960
January ..	82	82	99	7	9	12	89	91	111
February ..	95	101	110	7	15	14	102	116	124
March ..	95	131	158	12	13	16	107	144	174
April ..	116	155	145	27	13	14	143	168	159
May ..	137	154	156	41	24	8	178	178	164
June ..	131	143	153	31	27	28	162	170	181
July ..	141	156	157	49	36	31	190	192	188
August ..	91	136	236	46	44	34	137	180	270
September ..	128	161	163	27	34	18	155	195	181
October ..	127	128	124	8	18	13	135	146	137
November ..	86	97	168	27	18	9	113	115	177
December ..	93	109	118	18	12	25	111	121	143
Totals ..	1,322	1,553	1,787	300	263	222	1,622	1,816	2,009

In 1959, by dint of much overtime, the existing vehicle was only just able to manage the increased load. The demand at peak periods in the current year necessitated the hiring of an extra vehicle on three occasions, additionally there were unavoidable delays from receipt to completion of orders. The Council was made aware of the difficulties, and in September it was agreed to order an extra vehicle for delivery on April 1st, 1961.

The Chief Public Health Inspector reported on the cost of a free service, it was decided that no change was merited and the present scale of charges be continued.

COLLECTION AND SALVAGE OF HOUSE REFUSE

The Council considered the extra financial impact on the rates of a weekly collection in place of the present fortnightly service.

They decided that the resultant large increase in rates of about 9d. in the £ would be too expensive at present, having regard to future capital commitments for main drainage.

Refuse disposal was to two well controlled tips at London Road, Battle, and Rye Harbour, Icklesham.

SALVAGE

The results of the year's collection are summarised below:

<i>Material</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwt.</i>	<i>Qr.</i>	<i>Lb.</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
Mixed wastepaper ..	179	12	2	0	1,077	14	9
Ferrous metals ..	13	5	1	3	91	15	1
Non-ferrous metals ..	3	6	2	6	348	9	1
Rags	8	15	0	0	166	13	0
	<hr/> 204	<hr/> 19	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 9	<hr/> £1,684	<hr/> 11	<hr/> 11

LITTER ACT, 1958

The new litter service was in being from May to October and the cost was £1,944.

This comprehensive scheme involved the placing of 100 litter bins at focal points on the coastal strip from Pett to Camber and 20 street bins in Camber. Beach wardens were employed picking up litter while a full time driver with a new van toured the area, visiting every bin at least once every two days with special attention at Bank Holidays.

The resultant cleanliness was most noticeable and received favourable comment from residents and others.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES IN BATTLE RURAL DISTRICT

Public conveniences with wash-basins are provided by the Council at:

The Abbey Green, Battle,
Camber, East,
Camber, Central,
Camber, West,
Pett Level,
Winchelsea Beach.

By arrangement with the brewers, the Council contribute to the cost of the public conveniences at the New Inn, Winchelsea Town.

THE RENT ACT, 1957

Part I—Applications for Certificates of Disrepair

(1) Number of applications for certificates	5
(2) Number of decisions not to issue certificates	Nil

(3)	Number of decisions to issue certificates	5
	(a) in respect of some, but not all defects	1
	(b) in respect of all defects	4
(4)	Number of undertakings given by landlords under paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	4
(5)	Number of undertakings refused by Local Authority under proviso to paragraph 5 of the First Schedule	Nil
(6)	Number of certificates issued	Nil

Part II—Applications for Cancellation of Certificates

(7)	Applications by landlords to Local Authority for cancellation of certificates	1
(8)	Objections by tenants to cancellation of certificates	Nil
(9)	Decisions by Local Authority to cancel in spite of tenants' objections	Nil
(10)	Certificates cancelled by Local Authority	1

HOUSING

The following information is in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health:

1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year

(i)	(a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	451
	(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose	752
(ii)	(a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925, and 1932	107
	(b) Number of inspections made for this purpose	122
(iii)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	15
(iv)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	154

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	53
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3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

(A) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:*

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	Nil
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses acquired and subsequently rendered fit by the Local Authority	Nil

(B) *Proceedings under the Public Health Acts:*

(i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	Nil
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices (By owners)	Nil

(C) *Proceedings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957:*

(i) Number of Representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation	15
(ii) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(iii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil
(iv) Number of dwelling-houses closed in pursuance of undertakings accepted from owners	11
(v) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which undertakings were accepted from owners which have since been made fit	15

(D) *Proceedings under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957:* .. Nil

(E) *Proceedings under Section 24 of the Housing Act, 1957.*

Demolition Orders revoked following reconstruction ..	Nil
---	-----

HOUSING—IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Discretionary Grants

Properties investigated in 1960 for Grants	221
Applications for Grants received	92
Applications withdrawn	2
Applications refused (property did not conform to standards laid down)	1
Applications not proceeded with	9
Properties approved for Grants	80

Analysis of the 80 properties where grants were made revealed that:

77 were for improvements and 3 related to conversions.

Owner/occupier	43
Dwellings for agricultural workers	15
Occupied by statutory tenants or vacant and intended for letting	22

Total amount of Discretionary Grants approved in 1960

£21,685 11s. 3d.

Average grant per dwelling £271 1s. 4d.

Number of applications approved and completed in 1960 .. 21

Number of applications approved in previous years and completed in 1960 56

Standard Grants

Applications for Grant received	52
Applications withdrawn	5
Total amount of Standard grants approved in 1960	£6,385 0s. 0d.
Total amount of Standard grants paid in 1960	£6,999 13s. 8d.

Number of properties 69

Amenities provided:

Bath or shower	56
Washbasins	63
Hot water systems	66
Water closets	34
Food stores	22

HOUSING THE ELDERLY

The national average of persons per house has decreased from 3.3 to 3.0 in the past 10 years, which is possibly accentuated in an area of this type where there are so many retired people.

Although the number of rateable premises has increased markedly over the years, the population has not had a commensurate upsurge and this may be due to the fact that the numbers of persons per house has decreased.

There must still be emphasis on housing for the elderly as the following trend would indicate. The proportion of people over 65 in England and Wales rose from 4.7% at the beginning of the century to 11.8% in 1959, and it is likely to reach 14.8% in 1978.

In 1959 in England and Wales the estimated home population per 1,000 was composed as follows:

<i>Age</i>						<i>Proportion per 1,000</i>
0-	..	..	..	..	..	76
5-	..	..	..	..	..	72
10-	..	..	..	..	..	81
15-	..	..	..	..	..	65
20-	..	..	..	..	..	62
25-	..	..	..	..	..	130
35-	..	..	..	..	..	139
45-	..	..	..	..	..	142
55-	..	..	..	..	..	115
65-	..	..	..	..	..	76
75-	..	..	..	..	..	36
85+	..	..	..	..	..	6

This means nearly two million are now aged 75 years or over and more than a quarter of a million aged 85 or more; there are twice as many woman as men in these advanced age groups.

One-bedroomed dwellings represented just over 25% of all local authority house building in England and Wales in 1960, compared with 22% in 1959 and 10% five years ago.

HOUSING PROVIDED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

1939	..	..	..	..	..	433
1947	..	..	..	..	..	540
1957	..	..	..	..	..	1,326
1960	..	..	..	..	..	1,370

1,363 houses have main water supplies and 8 have other supplies as detailed on page 34. Forty-five are without water closets.

51 families were rehoused during 1960 (actual number of persons 170). At the end of the year 507 applicants were on the Register.

Basic Council House Improvements during 1960

Number of houses connected to main water	34
Number of houses provided with water closets	12

It is satisfactory to note that as sewerage schemes and main water supplies become available the Council's houses in the area are given these necessary amenities.

Rent Rebate Scheme

In order to alleviate cases of hardship, the Council operates a Rent Rebate Scheme.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Approximate amount of Rebate</i>	
1956	£5,200	
1957	£4,375	
1958	£2,270	
1959	£2,010	
1960	£1,929	

NEW DWELLINGS

New Dwellings erected during 1960:

(a) By the Council.. .. .	Battle	18
(b) By private enterprise		144

Dwellings in course of erection, 31st December, 1960:

(a) By the Council.. .. .	Battle O.P. flats	22
(b) By private enterprise		70 houses

COMPARATIVE TABLE—PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND LOCAL AUTHORITY

				PRIVATE ENTERPRISE		LOCAL AUTHORITY NEW DWELLINGS
				New dwellings	Conversions	
1949	..	..	..	54	7	48
1950	..	..	..	37	9	85
1951	..	..	..	25	13	64
1952	..	..	..	37	13	98
1953	..	..	..	86	6	90
1954	..	..	..	90	14	48
1955	..	..	..	76	8	73
1956	..	..	..	64	23	72
1957	..	..	..	61	7	52
1958	..	..	..	88	8	0
1959	..	..	..	111	0	18
1960	..	..	..	144	0	18

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Caravans are recorded on entry and kept under observation throughout their stay.

Rigorous enforcement of the Public Health Act is necessary to preserve the health of the people who have been attracted to this delightful coast.

<i>Caravan Sites</i>	<i>Number licensed</i>
Beauport Caravan Park, Battle	150
Crowhurst Park Caravan Park, Battle	250
Camber Caravan Park, Camber (Maddieson)	200
Silver Sands Caravan Park, Camber	350
Links Camp, Camber	6
Coghurst Hall Caravan Park, Guestling	150
Lordine Court Caravan Park, Ewhurst	75
Devonia Caravan Park, Iden	20
Cock Inn Caravan Park, Peasmarsh	20
Caravan Park, Pett Level, Pett (Gostick)	30
Frenchman's Beach, Rye Harbour	275
Whitegates, Westfield	6
Rye Bay Caravan Park, Winchelsea Beach	230
White Lodge Caravan Park, Winchelsea Beach	20
Winchelsea Sands Caravan Park, Winchelsea Beach	250
Winchelsea Caravan Park (Lowe and Jenner)	50
Ferryfields, Winchelsea (Alford)	45
Winchelsea Beach (Geary)	6
Other small sites, Victoria Way, Winchelsea Beach, etc.	44

The Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, came into operation on 29th August. Its chief provisions include powers for more effective control over the establishment of caravan sites, for better living conditions on sites, and for the provision of sites by Local Authorities.

VISITS OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS DURING 1960

Subject:

Drainage and sewage disposal	1,575
Water supplies	274
Milk and dairies	58
Building inspections	2,512
Hop-pickers' dwellings	9
Infectious diseases	51

Food premises	158
Housing and Public Health Acts	487
Improvement Grants.. .. .	982
Moveable dwellings	48
Nuisances	252
Verminous premises	38
Factories and workshops	9
Schools.. .. .	11
Slaughterhouses	335
Public Cleansing	149
Miscellaneous	300
Petroleum Regulations	106
Rent Act, 1957	45
Total ..	7,399

INDUSTRIES

The numbers engaged in the main industries located in the District are given in the table below.

	At 31st December, 1960			At 31st December 1959 Total
	Male	Female	Total	
Bakery	19	8	27	24
Beach works	43	2	45	48
Building works	490	18	508	553
Bus and Coach Operators.. .. .	20	3	23	24
Cattle market	5	3	8	9
Coal merchants	24	3	27	26
Concrete works	92	7	99	98
Egg packing station	15	6	21	20
Engineering works	470	70	540	444
Entertainments	2	3	5	6
Fencing contractors	15	1	16	15
Flour mills	63	21	84	77
Gypsum mines	565	14	579	583
Hop gardens (permanent staff—Guinness's)	98	4	102	118
Hotels	23	19	42	34
Jam factory.. .. .	19	28	47	42
Joinery works	23	2	25	24
Laundries	17	54	71	74
Oil refining	12	1	13	8
Oil distilling	4	—	4	—
Printing works	4	1	5	4
Sawmills	82	3	85	105
Sports goods manufacturers	46	13	59	54
Sports ground contractors	71	7	78	50
Wooden toy manufacturers	9	19	28	38

**NUMBER OF AGRICULTURAL WORKERS IN AREA
COVERED BY HASTINGS COUNTY BOROUGH,
THE BOROUGH OF BEXHILL AND RYE AND
BATTLE RURAL DISTRICT (EXCLUDING BUR-
WASH AND TICEHURST)**

Year	Men	Women	Total
1957	2,160	493	2,653
1958	1,858	451	2,309
1959	1,558	434	1,992
1960	1,621	469	2,090

It is not possible to give the numbers of agricultural workers in Battle Rural District as a separate entity.

Hop-pickers' Camps

The medical service provided by Messrs. Guinness Hop Farms Ltd. included a resident doctor, nurses, a small sick bay and an ambulance. This well-integrated medical unit was much appreciated by the 1,660 adult and 575 child pickers.

The health of the pickers was good and they appeared to benefit from the amenities provided for them.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Nine inspections under the Factories Act, 1937, were made during 1960.

There was one outworker under Section 110 (I) (c). Conditions were satisfactory.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Council employ one rat-catcher, trained to use modern methods, and this man's work has proved most effective. Routine visits are made to slaughterhouses and any Council properties, such as sewage works, which are liable to infestation.

Permanent baiting points are maintained at the principal refuse tips, and the public sewers are treated annually in accordance with the routine approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The following table summarises the results of the operator's work during the twelve months ending 31st December, 1960:

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				Total
	Local Authority	Dwell- ing houses	Agri- cultural	All other (including business and industrial)	
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	33	10,941	Approx. 1,101	1,495	13,570
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority as a result of (a) notification (b) Survey under the Act (c) otherwise	(a) 6	116	3	31	156
	(b) 27	448	108	108	691
	(c) —	39	—	162	201
III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats	Major 1	1	—	—	2
	Minor 8	168	4	16	196
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by mice	Major —	—	1	1	2
	Minor 1	32	—	13	46
V. Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority	10	201	5	30	246

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

One application received in respect of the sale of birds and fish.

One licence granted.

METEOROLOGY

RAINFALL FIGURES TAKEN AT BATTLE WATERWORKS

	Number of days on which rain fell	Longest period of drought	Periods of drought
1956 ..	151	17 days	7th-23rd Feb. inclusive
1957 ..	160	16 days	9th-24th April inclusive and 30th Sept. to 15th Oct. inclusive
1958 ..	175	None recorded	None recorded
1959 ..	130	38 days	14th Aug. to 21st Sept. inclusive
		22 days	31st Jan. to 21st Feb. inclusive
1960 ..	209	None recorded	None recorded

Comparison with previous years is given in the following table:

<i>Year</i>	..	..	..	..	<i>Total rainfall</i>
1949	..	..	..	..	27.3 inches
1950	..	..	..	..	32.1 inches
1951	..	..	..	..	45.0 inches
1952	..	..	..	..	35.1 inches
1953	..	..	..	..	26.1 inches
1954	..	..	..	..	37.0 inches
1955	..	..	..	..	32.7 inches
1956	..	..	..	..	30.0 inches
1957	..	..	..	..	32.5 inches
1958	..	..	..	..	38.1 inches
1959	..	..	..	..	31.0 inches
1960	..	..	..	..	42.9 inches

TEMPERATURE

	Highest recorded temperature		Lowest recorded temperature	
	Degrees	Dates	Degrees	Dates
1956 ..	85	26th July 23rd Aug.	2	3rd Feb.
1957 ..	95	1st July	18	17th Feb.
1958 ..	86	9th July	6	23rd Jan.
1959 ..	92	5th July	17	16th Jan.
1960 ..	83	19th June	12	14th Jan.

APPENDIX
FACTORIES ACT, 1937 TO 1959
PART I OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors):

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	18	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	72	6	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	3	3	—	—
Total	93	9	—	—

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases"):

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT
OUTWORK
(SECTIONS 110 AND 111)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel } Making etc.	1	—	—	—	—	—

